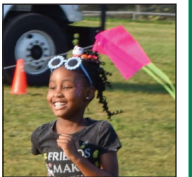


Coffee with a Cop, p.10



Schrom Fest, p.16

PGFD Will Not Return Career Staff to Greenbelt Fire Dept.

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

Twenty-four career firefighters were pulled from Greenbelt station on June 30 as part of what was called a “summer staffing” plan to meet staff shortages exacerbated by scheduled summer vacation leave and unscheduled callouts. After dodging questions about when the reassessment promised for October would take place and what metrics it would use, Prince George’s County Fire Department (PGFD) announced Friday, October 11 that the “reallocation of career staffing from Stations 814 [Berwyn Heights], 835 [Greenbelt], 839 [Bowie–Belair] and 855 [Bunker Hill] will continue to prevent an increase in the staffing deficit and a subsequent increase in mandatory holdover/callbacks.” Mandatory holdover/callbacks are when an employee is called back out-



Greenbelt Fire Department

side their scheduled hours or unable to leave at the end of their shift. The announcement included news of an additional EMS unit for Greenbelt and revealed deep problems with PGFD’s recruitment and retention.

City Manager Josué Salmerón said they’d been hopeful for the return of the firefighters. “That’s what we wanted,” he said. The announcement is what Greenbelt leaders had feared would be the case. Speaking at a council

See **FIRE DEPT.**, page 8

A Story about Story Hour: Fun at Springhill Lake Rec

by Erica Johns

Books and songs and activities about mariachi music, plants, shapes, colors and numbers filled the monthly pre-K bilingual story hour at Springhill Lake Recreation Center on Friday, October 11. Children’s voices filled the room with singing, responses to questions (“A star!”) and talking to each other, though attention sometimes wandered, which happens when you’re 2 years old and there’s a lot happening around you.

There were three new attendees among the 24 children who ranged in age from 6 months to 5 years old. Sophia Werking said of Anya and 6-month-old Jojo, “We’ve been coming since Anya was 2 and she’s almost 3 now. It’s good for her to interact with other kids.” Gloria Walters-Flowers’ granddaughter Ava first came as a stroller baby, and on Friday walked in, choosing I Am Sam-I-Am from the book table. A set of triplets has begun sitting still and paying attention. The story hour is walkable for Frank-



PHOTO BY ERICA JOHNS

Children listen to librarian Darlene Reyes read *The Plant Rescuer*, about Manny who visits the library to learn how to care for his first plant.

lin Park families and attracts attendees from across Greenbelt. Ericka Vargas, with 3-year-old daughter Kiarah Muniz Vargas from central Greenbelt, said, “We love this hour. We’ve been coming for a year.”

Bilingual literacy enables children to learn in the language they find comfortable, increasing communication skills and literacy and fostering cultural and social

See **STORY HOUR**, page 9

Join a Wild and Joyful Rumpus In Roosevelt Center Next Friday

by Nicole DeWald

The Greenbelt Recreation Arts Program invites families and kids at heart to attend a joyful celebration of creative transformation. The Wild Rumpus takes place in Roosevelt Center on Friday, October 25 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. This event is free, and registration is not required.

Guests are invited to show off their Halloween or cosplay costumes, or other festive dress. (Greenbelt Recreation requests no gore or violent imagery, in order to create a peaceful and welcoming space for all participants.) Revelers will enjoy juggling and hula hooping performances from In the Dark Circus Arts, as well as performance jump roping with local favorites, the Greenbelt S.I.T.Y. Stars. Also joining the party will be a cavalcade of cavorting creatures from this year’s Wild Things Giant Puppet Build.

Those wishing to participate in a community dance number at the Rumpus are invited to



PHOTO COURTESY GREENBELT PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

Greenbelt Dance Studio Instructor Lisa Pellittiere and dancers at the 2023 Wild Rumpus

register for a Friends and Family Workshop on Saturday, October 19 from 11 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. at the Community Center, Ground Floor East. Participants will also make a wearable musical instrument. Youth and adults are welcome. Details are available on page 24 of the Greenbelt Recreation Fall Activity Guide at greenbeltnmd.gov/activityguide. Walk-up registration is also available.

Local puppeteer Cecilia Cackley and friend will perform two teatro lambe-lambe shows at the Wild Rumpus. This is a form of

street performance originating in Brazil that consists of a very short puppet show in a box performed for one or two audience members at a time. The show is viewed through peep holes, and audio is provided over headphones. Discover the magic in miniature.

Following the S.I.T.Y. Stars performance, guests of all ages are invited to trick or treat around

See **RUMPUS**, page 6

What Goes On

Monday, October 21
7:30 p.m., City Council Worksession: City Manager’s Quarterly Update, Municipal Building
Wednesday, October 23
7:30 p.m., Council Worksession: Pepco Streetlights, Municipal Building

See the city ad on page 5 or the meetings calendar at greenbeltnmd.gov for more information.

Council Discusses Prioritization Of the Remaining ARPA Funds

by Daniel Thies

On Monday, October 7, the Greenbelt City Council met with staff in a worksession to discuss the status of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) federal funds that have been allocated to the city.

Good Problems

City Manager Josué Salmerón summarized the situation as the city having “three good problems.”

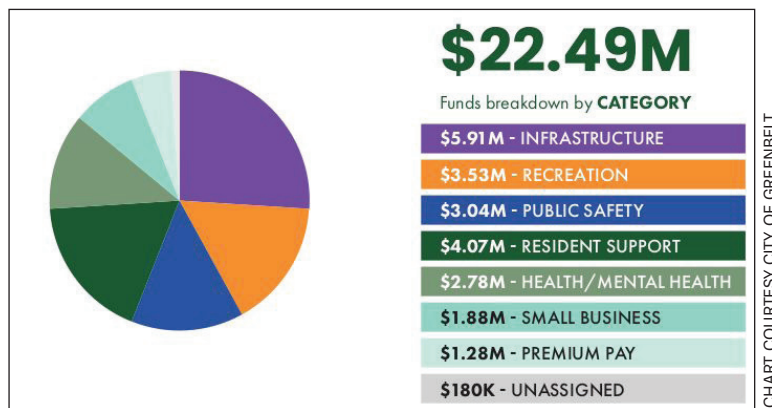
The city has received more ARPA funding than almost any other municipality in Maryland – second only to Baltimore. That such a high amount of federal funds was given to a city the size of Greenbelt is significant. As a result, Salmerón anticipates the city will be audited to verify that all ARPA funds were used properly. While he is confident that the city can weather the scrutiny, city staff are preparing for any additional reports prior to the federal government’s deadline at the

end of December by building in an internal deadline of November 30 so they have adequate time to respond.

The second good problem is that the city still has over \$1 million in ARPA funds to obligate before the end of the year. The majority of that windfall is due to developments in the Aquatic Center’s indoor pool repair plans; the city initially set aside about \$800K in ARPA funds to the project, but thanks to the city’s use of the Project Open Space program earlier this year, the city was able to free up those ARPA funds.

Thankfully, the city has multiple potential projects which could use the remaining ARPA funds. However, according to Salmerón, that’s also the city’s third good problem: the cost of all potential projects that could use ARPA

See **ARPA**, page 13



Use of ARPA funds by category

CHART COURTESY CITY OF GREENBELT

Museum Aglow to Celebrate Greenbelt Halloween Traditions

by Sheila Maffay-Tuthill



The Greenbelt Museum celebrates Halloween.

The Greenbelt Museum is aglow and decorated for Halloween. Come out for a tour of the festive Museum house at 10-B Crescent Road on Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m., to learn more about Halloween history in Greenbelt. The first families moved into Greenbelt in October of 1937, just in time for Halloween. The celebratory traditions began from the start.

Learn more at the museum at a drop-in tour, or just walk by to see the blow-mold pumpkins casting a warm and welcoming light for passersby.

There's also a children's scavenger hunt available on the Museum's website and social media pages. Stop by the Museum house on Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. for a prize when the hunt is completed. Happy Hunting and Happy Halloween!



On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

His Three Daughters

From writer-director Azazel Jacobs (French Exit, The Lovers) comes this bittersweet and often funny story of an elderly patriarch and the three grown daughters who come to be with him in his final days. Katie (Carrie Coon) is a controlling Brooklyn mother dealing with a wayward teenage daughter; free-spirited Christina (Elizabeth Olsen) is a different kind of mom, separated from her offspring for the first time; and Rachel (Natasha Lyonne) is a sports-betting stoner who has never left her father's apartment – much to the chagrin of her stepsisters, who share a different mother and worldview. Continuing his astute exploration of family dynamics in close-knit spaces, Jacobs follows the siblings over the course of three volatile days, as death looms, grievances erupt and love seeps through the cracks of a fractured home.

My Penguin Friend

A sweeping family adventure, the film is a triumphant tale of friendship between a lonely father and a little lost penguin who recharges his spirit and heals his family with an unshakable, ocean-crossing loyalty. Humble fisherman João (international star Jean Reno) has turned away from the world in the wake of tragedy. But when he discovers a penguin drifting alone in the ocean, drenched in oil from a spill, his first instinct is to help. To his wife's (Oscar nominee Adriana Barraza) dismay, he not only rescues the sea creature, but takes the flightless bird under his wing. For the first time in years João starts to feel joy, even if he cannot fathom just how unbreakable a bond is being formed. When the penguin suddenly disappears back into the immense wilds of the ocean, João believes it is impossible that he will ever see his friend again. But thousands of miles away, the penguin is caught in misadventures of his own, determined to use his unique GPS-like powers to find his way back to the place he now considers home. Based on an emotional true story that riveted the world and was filmed on the spectacular coasts of Brazil and Argentina, the film is a tale that traverses the magic of the ocean, the beauty of nature and the transformative power of love.

The Wild Robot

This epic animated adventure follows the journey of a robot – ROZZUM unit 7134, Roz for short – that is shipwrecked on an uninhabited island and must learn to adapt to the harsh surroundings, gradually building relationships with the animals on the island and becoming the adoptive parent to an orphaned gosling.

Drop Us a Line!
Electronically, that is.
editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com

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Greenbelt Cinema
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbeltcinema.org
Members Always \$6.50!
Member kids are always FREE!
Adults \$9, Kids \$6,
Senior/Student/Military \$8
All shows before 5 PM:
Adults \$7, Kids \$5
OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

SHOWTIMES:
OCTOBER 18th - 24th

His Three Daughters (R)
(CC) (DVS) (2024) (101 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 8:00 PM
Sat. 7:45 PM
Sun. 1:00 PM (OC)
Mon. 5:00 PM
Tues. 8:00 PM
Wed. 5:45 PM
Thurs. 7:45 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 5:15 PM

My Penguin Friend (PG) (CC)
(DVS) (2024) (97 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 5:30 PM
Sun. 3:30 PM
Mon. 2:30 PM (OC)
Wed. 3:30 PM
Thurs. 5:30 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Sat. 5:30 PM
Tues. 7:45 PM

The Wild Robot (PG) (CC)
(DVS) (2024) (103 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sat. 5:15 PM
Sun. 5:45 PM
Tues. 5:30 PM
Wed. 8:00 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 7:45 PM
Sat. 8:00 PM
Mon. 2:45 PM, 5:15 PM
Thurs. 7:30 PM

Storytime on Screen - Free!
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Mon. 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM

Utopia Film Festival 2024
Information/tickets available
at utopiafilmfestival.org

PETE REPPERT

DON'T HIDE IN THE BUSHES...

VOTE

Letters Policy during Elections
Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published).
Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary.
All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.
The News Review will not print letters endorsing candidates. The News Review will not print a letter raising a new issue the week prior to election day, when no other party would have a chance to respond.

Greenbelt News Review
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- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement.
MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year
Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday and Tuesday, 2 - 4 p.m.
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the Municipal Building.

All this and more on the GATe channel this week! Check greenbeltaccess.tv for the full broadcast schedule, and visit [Greenbelt Access Television on YouTube](#) for new video productions.

Obituaries

Maura Warner



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

Maura Warner

Maura Caughey Warner died at her home in Greenbelt on July 20, 2024, at the age of 33. Maura was born on September 6, 1990, and was raised in 14 Court Laurel Hill Road. As a child, Maura attended Adelphi Friends Meeting (Quaker) with her family. She attended Greenbelt Nursery School and Kindergarten, and Friends Community School in College Park. Maura graduated from Sidwell Friends School in Washington, D.C., in 2008, and from Macalester College in St. Paul, Minn., in 2012.

Following her graduation from college, Maura worked as a software engineer in Eagan, Minn., for two years before moving to Boston in 2014 to be closer to family while continuing to work in her field. She was a highly recruited software engineer, and worked for several start-ups and established firms in Boston throughout the past decade. She volunteered with PCs for People in St. Paul and the Cambridge Women’s Center in Boston, supporting lower income families in accessing various resources. Maura returned to live in Greenbelt in 2023.

Maura was a wisely incisive observer of society and the political sphere, and organized to support herself and others in the LG-BTQ community in high school and as an adult. Her blog posts were often focused on social

justice issues. Maura was unfailing and bold in speaking of her wish to uplift marginalized communities both nearby and around the world – from her local queer community to those suffering through war in Palestine.

From a very young age, Maura was a verbally precocious reader and speaker, as well as a constant reader. She became a gifted writer of prose, fiction and lyrics as a teen and adult, and immersed herself in poetry, feminist theory and political theory in high school and college.

In addition to being a skilled writer, Maura was talented in many other artforms. During her life she practiced ceramics, crocheting, drawing, singing, piano and ukulele. She also very much appreciated the artistry which went into video game design and loved gaming with friends. She enjoyed being in nature and often biked to work in Boston or enjoyed time relaxing outside. Although sometimes shy with people she did not know, Maura shared her outrageous humor, warm empathy and passionate conversation with her family and friends.

Maura enjoyed travel from a young age, and often went hiking and camping with her family throughout her childhood. Perhaps most of all, Maura loved the annual summer trips with her family to a simple cabin built by her great-great-grandfather on Gregg Lake in Antrim, N.H. Canoeing, cooking on the woodstove, swimming, singing to the cove, playing with cousins, hearing the call of the loons and watching the

sun, wind and rain play over the lake’s surface during summer visits to the cabin became treasured memories for Maura, and for her entire family. In high school and early adulthood, Maura hiked in the Southwest and along the North Shore of Lake Superior, and traveled to England, Europe and China. Throughout her adulthood, she continued to enjoy frequent trips to visit family in New Hampshire.

Despite struggling with severe treatment-resistant depression for over two decades, Maura gave an enormous amount to the world and to the people around her. Through her intelligence, insight, empathy, humor and strong voice, Maura made the world a better place and brought immense joy to the lives of her friends and family.

Maura is survived by her mother, Stephanie (Brown) Warner, of Greenbelt; her father, Jeremy Warner, of Greenbelt; her sister, Asha Warner, of Lansing, Mich.; her paternal grandmother, Margaret Warner, formerly of Greenbelt and now of Antrim, N.H.; her paternal grandfather, John Warner, of Vero Beach, Fla.; her maternal grandmother, Christine Nimmo, of Louisville, Colo.; and her aunts, uncles and cousins.

A memorial service to remember Maura will be held on Saturday, October 26 at Adelphi Friends Meeting at 2303 Metzerott Road in Adelphi. The service will have two parts and will begin at 10 a.m. with hymn singing and eulogies being shared. The second part of the memorial service will begin at 1 p.m. and will

be a traditional Quaker Meeting for Worship, during which anyone is welcome to speak out of the silence and share their memories of Maura. Friends of Maura and of her family are warmly invited to attend either or both parts of the memorial service, and to enjoy gathering together at Adelphi Friends Meeting in the time between the two Meetings for Worship.

Muriel Weidenfeld



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

Muriel Weidenfeld

Muriel (“Micki”) Pearl Weidenfeld, 91, was at home when she died peacefully surrounded with love on October 8, 2024. Her husband of 71 years, Gil, and her family were with her.

Micki was born in New York City on July 1, 1933. She lived there until her young teenage years when her parents, Ethel and

See **OBITUARIES**, page 12



Our condolences to the family and many friends of Micki Weidenfeld, longtime “first lady of Greenbelt.”

Our sympathy to the family of longtime Greenbelter Elaine Eubanks. The city flag is flying at half-staff in her memory.

Our sympathy also to the family and friends of Maura Warner who grew up in Greenbelt and had returned to live here in 2023. She was active in social justice issues and deeply concerned about marginalized communities both nearby and abroad.

Send details of your news to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.



Obituaries

The News Review publishes obituaries of Greenbelt residents, past or present.

You write it or we will if you prefer. We try to include information about participation in various activities and organizations, where the person lived and something about the family. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.

“...there is nothing of greater importance to mankind than the investigation of truth.” – ‘Abdu’l-Bahá



Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

www.greenbeltbahais.org

The Bible Says...

The Ten Commandments
#6-You Shall Not Murder
Exodus 20:13



Sunday Worship Services

10a-11:15a @ Greenbelt Elementary School
(66 Ridge Rd.)

MCFcc.org

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Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church



Postal address: P.O. Box 676, Laurel, MD 20725
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community



October 20, 2024 at 3:00 pm
Dearly Departing

Anthony Jenkins with Worship Associate Jacqui Walpole

In the spirit of our October theme (Justice), we’ll shine some contemplative light on the communal experience of death. Together we’ll consider the aspects of dying that draw us together (humility), that emancipate and empower us (justice), and that inspire the community to change the world (kindness).

Streaming on PBUUC’s Facebook page, on Zoom, and in person. Worship service held at University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GREENBELT MASS

Sunday 10:00 a.m.
City Council Room
25 Crescent Rd

ALL ARE WELCOME!

OR - Join us on ZOOM!
For ZOOM link:
CCG1985+owner@groups.io

cathcomgreenbelt.org

Greenbelt BAPTIST CHURCH

Christ-centered
Biblical
& Reformed

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am

Sunday School 9:15am

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00pm

101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt, MD
www.greenbeltbaptist.org



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Find us on [facebook.com/mowattumc](https://www.facebook.com/mowattumc)
301-474-5410

Pastor Evelyn Romero

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at 10:00 AM

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Church



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OF CHRIST

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and Church School

www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD
www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

- Daily Mass: Mon-Fri 7:15am*, Sat 9am*
- Sunday Mass:
 - Sat vigil 5pm*
 - Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am
- Confessions Saturday 3pm – 4pm.
Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

*Live streamed on Facebook and available on our YouTube page later.

CELEBRATE WITH US

135 Crescent Rd.
www.sthughofgrenoble.org



City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

MEETINGS FOR OCTOBER 21 - 25

Monday, October 21 at 7:30 pm, **WORK SESSION - CITY MANAGER QUARTERLY UPDATE**

Monday, October 21 Immediately Following Work Session, **SPECIAL MEETING/CLOSED SESSION - PERSONNEL AND PENDING LEGAL MATTERS**

Tuesday, October 22 at 7 pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**, *On the Agenda: Meeting with PTA Presidents, Minutes of September Meeting, Grants Review*

Tuesday, October 22 at 7:30 pm, **GREEN ACES AND GREEN TEAM**, *On the Agenda: Updates from Each of the Circles Given by Head of Each Circle, Buddy Attick Park Master Plan Work Session Discussion, Time Bank Circle, Curbside Compost Pickup Grant Updates, Electronics & Styrofoam Recycling October 26*

Wednesday, October 23 at 7:30 pm, **WORK SESSION - PEPCO STREETLIGHTS/LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES AND BOND BILLS**

Wednesday, October 23 Immediately Following Work Session, **SPECIAL MEETING/CLOSED SESSION - CITY MANAGER’S EVALUATION PROCESS**

Thursday, October 24 at 6:30 pm, **FOUR CITIES MEETING (NEW CARROLLTON)**

Thursday, October 24 at 7 pm, **FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD**, *On the Agenda: Recommendation for Northway Signage, Recommendation on Trail in Sunrise Tract, Stewardship: Updates and Discussion (Invasives Workday, Trails, Etc), Rare Plant Protection, PG County Stormwater Stewardship Grant Program*

In advance, the hearing impaired are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call (301) 474-8000. For information on public participation for the meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

In accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1) and (8) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, a closed session of the Greenbelt City Council will be held on Monday, October 21, 2024, immediately following the Council Work Session – City Manager’s Quarterly Update, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building: 1) to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; 2) to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

The purpose of this meeting is 1) to address personnel matters over which this public body has jurisdiction.

2) to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

*** The public may attend the Council Work Session prior to the closed session and observe the vote of the Council to move into the closed session on Monday, October 21, 2024.**

Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

OFFICIAL NOTICE

By Section 3-305(b)(1) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, a closed session of the Greenbelt City Council will be held on Wednesday, October 23, 2024, immediately following the Council Work Session – Pepco Street Lights, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building: 1) to discuss the appointment, performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

The purpose of this meeting is 1) to discuss the City Manager’s Evaluatio

*** The public may attend the Special Council Meeting of the City Council immediately before the closed session and observe the vote of the Council to move into the closed session on Wednesday, October 23, 2024.**

Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

SPONSOR THE 2024 GOBBLE WOBBLE 5K FAMILY FUN RUN & WALK

Greenbelt Recreation is seeking local businesses and organizations interested in supporting the Gobble Wobble and its continued success.

Sponsorships range from \$100 - \$500. Depending on sponsor level, sponsorships may include logo placement on advertisements, on shirts, promotional materials, and more! If your business or organization is interested in sponsoring this year’s Gobble Wobble, please contact Recreation at (301) 397-2200 or aphelan@greenbeltmd.gov.

All sponsorships must be received by Monday, October 28.

TRAFFIC CALMING STUDY COMMUNITY MEETING & OPEN FORUM

Tuesday, October 29 / 7 - 9 pm
Greenbelt Community Center, Room 201

This community meeting will focus on the Draft Traffic Calming Study: Greenbelt Center City. Participants can view printed posters of proposed roadway improvements and provide their feedback to staff and project consultants. The meeting will begin with a brief presentation on the study’s background and the foundations of traffic calming.

Contact planninginfo@greenbeltmd.gov.

FEATURED PETS

AMETHYST

Ready for Adoption?
Call (301) 474-6124

Looking for a WFH (work from home) buddy? Amethyst sometimes gets the spookies when she’s left by herself, so she’d love an adoptive family who can spend lots of time with her. 1-year-old Amethyst has been in foster since July and has been such a great houseguest. Her fosters say that she’s potty trained, great on walks, and great with people and other dogs, but that she has separation anxiety when she’s left by herself for too long. Amethyst would do best with a patient adopter who can spend quality time with her and work on her training. She might also benefit from a doggy roommate to keep her company!

If you’re interested in adopting the amazing Amethyst, call (301) 474-6124 or animalservices@greenbeltmd.gov!



PUMPKIN FESTIVAL: CARVINGS & WALKS

October 18 & 19

Various locations in Greenbelt. See Activity Guide Page 7 or the [City Calendar](#)

Participate in Greenbelt’s tradition of pumpkin carving, followed by a walk to enjoy the creative pumpkin trail. Email greenbeltpumpkinfestival@gmail.com.

WILD RUMPUS HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION

Friday, October 25

Roosevelt Center, 121 Centerway

Community costume party with trick or treating, performances, and a free short film at the Greenbelt Cinema. (Free for all ages)

Pre-Rumpus Activities: Sun, 10/13: Make a backpack puppet to parade at the Wild Rumpus. **Sun, 10/19:** Learn a flash mob dance and make a wearable musical instrument! Register in advance for workshops!

See pages 24 and 31 of the fall activity guide: www.greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide.



FALL/WINTER ARTS FOR ALL AGES

See the current Greenbelt Recreation Activity Guide at www.greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide for information about workshops, classes, meet-ups and events for all ages! For additional arts information, visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts and follow [greenbeltrecreationarts](#) on Facebook and Instagram.

Highlights this winter include:

- Sparkle Mart: Greenbelt’s Juried Art and Craft Fair** *December 7 (10 am - 5 pm), December 8 (10 am - 4 pm), Greenbelt Community Center.* Shop for original fine crafts and artwork, direct from about 80 local makers! Enjoy live music both days, 1 - 3 pm.
- The Snow Queen: a Greenbelt Dance Studio Production.** *Saturday, December 14 (3 pm), Sunday, December 15 (11 am and 3 pm), Greenbelt Community Center.* Enjoy an imaginative retelling of Hans Christian Anderson’s tale through ballet, jazz, contemporary, ballroom and tap. Tickets: \$5. Advance sales (highly recommended), starting 11/18: (301) 397-2208.
- Secret Circus: the 2025 Greenbelt Youth Musical** *Saturday, March 1 (7 pm), Sunday, March 2 (3 pm), Saturday, March 8 (2 pm & 7 pm).* Greenbelt Community Center. As the tide of fascism rises in 1930’s Europe, a traveling circus races against time to smuggle a disabled girl named Anya to safety. Tickets: \$5. Advance sales (highly recommended), starting 2/4: (301) 397-2208.

ELECTRONICS & STYROFOAM RECYCLING

Saturday, October 26, 9 am - 12 pm
Public Works Facility, 555 Crescent

RECYCLE YOUR OLD COMPUTERS AND OTHER ELECTRONICS!

Electronics Recycling - Accepted: CPUs, monitors, keyboards, mice, printers, laptops, recording equipment, speakers, scanners, surge protectors, cameras, telephones, radios, DVD players, VCRs, fax machines, wires, power cords. NO - ALCALINE BATTERIES or CFLs; NO - TUBE TVs.

Expanded Polystyrene - White, block Styrofoam #6.
Clean - Cups, egg cartons, and food trays welcome.

NO PAINT RECYCLING IN OCTOBER!

Contact Public Works at (301) 474-8004 with any questions or concerns.

CAREGIVER APPRECIATION DAY

Thursday, November 7 / 1 - 4 pm

Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road

It’s your turn to be cared for! Join us for this FREE event on Thursday, November 7 for light refreshments, mini-swap bags, massages, and more! Please note that registration is required and opens on October 7.

To register, contact Brendy Garcia at bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov or (240) 424-0302.

KAYAKING AT BUDDY ATTICK LAKE

Saturday, October 26 / 12 - 3 pm
Buddy Attick Lake

Enjoy a new adventure at Buddy Attick Lake with a special tour lead by Park Ranger Supervisor Patrick Mullen. Limited kayaks, vests, and paddles are available or bring your own and join in the fun! Tour starts at 12:30 pm. All are welcome!

Kayaks are provided for use during this event by Greenbelt Recreation at no cost. Even is led by Park Ranger Supervisor Patrick Mullen, Environmental Coordinator Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll, and Interim Therapeutic Recreation and Inclusion Coordinator Priya Gardner Lemieux.

Contact Patrick Mullen at pmullen@greenbeltmd.gov or Priya Gardner Lemieux at pgardner@greenbeltmd.gov for more information.



GREENBELT CITY CALENDAR

Be sure to check out the City calendar for all up to date events at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.



PUBLIC STATEMENT REGARDING PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY FIRE/EMS SUMMER STAFFING PLAN FOR GREENBELT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Greenbelt, MD - The City of Greenbelt is disappointed in the County’s decision to reassign 24 career personnel from Greenbelt Station 835 on July 1, resulting in the removal of all career personnel from our Station. County Fire Chief Tiffany Green and County leadership ordered the redeployment of 55 career firefighters from Berwyn Heights, Greenbelt, Bunker Hill, and Bowie Station. We are gravely concerned with the impact in response times of emergencies in Greenbelt and our surrounding areas.

Greenbelt will continue to work in tandem with College Park and Berwyn Heights alongside County leadership in addressing our concerns and fighting for the City of Greenbelt.

WHO CAN I CONTACT?

Office of the County Executive
countyexecutive@co.pg.md.us
(301) 952-4131

Office of the County Fire Chief
tdgreen@co.pg.md.us
(301) 883-5200

At-Large County Council Member Hawkins
At-LargeMemberHawkins@co.pg.md.us
(301) 952-2195

County Council Member District 4
councildistrict4@co.pg.md.us
(301) 952-3094

Letters of Support to keep/return career staffing to Greenbelt Station 835 can be sent to:

City of Greenbelt, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 or council@greenbeltmd.gov.

ONLINE BILL PAY

The City of Greenbelt launched online bill pay services on Tuesday, September 3, 2024. Residents are now able to pay their bills via check, bank transfer, debit card, or credit card.

To find out more information and to sign-up, visit ow.ly/Jo9450TaHtH.

COMMITTEES & BOARDS VACANCIES VOLUNTEER TODAY!

Volunteering for City of Greenbelt Committees & Boards is an excellent opportunity to engage with your community and make a difference. Choose from a number of committees & boards such as the **Advisory Committee on Trees**, **Senior Citizens Advisory Committee**, the **Youth Advisory Committee**, or the **Advisory Committee on Education**, Arts Advisory Board, Board of Elections, Community Relations Advisory Board, Employee Relations Advisory Board, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, or the Park and Recreation Advisory Board and make a difference in Greenbelt!

Take the first step towards making a positive impact and apply for one of these committee vacancies today!

Call (301) 474-8000.



Election 2024

U.S. Senate Race

by Joan Estenson

One of the closest races in the nation is the race for the U.S. Senate seat from Maryland being vacated by retiring senator of 17 years Ben Cardin.

Angela Alsobrooks – Democrat

Prince George’s County Executive Angela Alsobrooks was born and raised in Prince George’s County. After serving as a circuit court law clerk, she served as an assistant state’s attorney assigned to handle domestic violence cases, and held a variety of roles in county administration, before becoming the youngest and first woman elected as Prince George’s County State’s Attorney.

As State’s Attorney, she took a tough on crime approach. Under her tenure, violent crime dropped by 50 percent, and she established a unit to investigate and prosecute police and official misconduct.

In 2018, Alsobrooks was elected Prince George’s County Executive, again the first woman and the first Black woman to hold the position and the first Black woman elected to the office of County Executive in Maryland history. She has focused on job creation and increasing economic opportunity, access to education (breaking ground on 10 new schools), increasing access to mental health care, addiction treatment and youth outreach.

Larry Hogan – Republican

Former governor Larry Hogan is a lifelong Marylander and

business owner. Fed up with decades of one-party rule, he started Change Maryland, a non-partisan grassroots citizen organization. In 2014, Hogan became only the second Republican Governor elected in Maryland in 50 years. Among many accomplishments as governor, Hogan made historic investments in education, transportation infrastructure and protecting the environment, and achieved this while overcoming cancer. He was re-elected in 2018, making him the second Republican to be re-elected in the entire history of the state.

Minor party and independent candidates include Mike Scott (Libertarian), and Emmanuel Osuchukwu (Independent).

Mike Scott has been a realtor in Bowie since 2017. From 1990 to 2017 he served in the U.S. military, including in the U.S. Air Force from 1990 to 2004. He graduated from the University of Nebraska - Omaha in 1997 and earned a master’s degree from Central Michigan University in 2004. “As your Senator I will make ethical, data-driven decisions for the benefit of everyday Americans,” said Scott. “I intend to Serve the Public. My first bills introduced will be term limits, BRAC and End the Fed.”

Emmanuel Osuchukwu’s website describes his platform as based on issues including term limits for all political offices and judges and publicly funding all elections.

Election 2024

U.S. House of Representatives

by Joan Estenson

Glenn Ivey – Democratic Party

Ivey is running for a second term as U.S. Representative from Maryland’s 4th Congressional District, which includes Greenbelt. He earned a B.A. in politics from Princeton University in 1983 and a juris doctor from Harvard University in 1986. Ivey’s career experience includes working as an assistant U.S. Attorney and in several positions on Capitol Hill, before chairing the Maryland Public Service Commission. He was a partner in the law firm of Preston, Gates and Ellis before serving as the state’s attorney for Prince George’s County, and then founded the Ivey & Levetown law firm.

George McDermott – Republican Party

McDermott earned a trade school diploma. He started his first business in 1966, and by 1994 had created several construction companies building retail stores and doing mall renovations. In 1992 his business designed and opened a hardware store in Temple Hills.

McDermott said, “For the third time, the citizens of Maryland have supported my bipartisan campaign efforts to continue this candidate’s 30-plus years of public service to the citizens of Maryland as a victims’ rights advocate and as a victim.”



Stamp Out Hunger
Close to Home

Greenbelt PORCH is continuing to collect nonperishable food in the month of October as scheduled below. Note changes to the usual schedule due to the HUG Walk on October 20.

Saturday, October 19 – by 10 a.m. for 14 and 15 Courts Laurel Hill Road

Sunday, October 27 – after 4 p.m. for the 9, 11, 12 and 13 Courts Ridge Road; by 5 p.m. for Lakeside Drive; by 4 p.m. for Boxwood Village and P.A.L. (Porch At Large) members. Email Robert Goldberg-Strassler by noon on October 27 at spreadruak@gmail.com.

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Election 2024

President and Vice President

by Joan Estenson

While Ballotpedia has a long list of people running for President as of September 10, few will actually be on the Maryland ballot. The most notable follow.

Kamala Harris and Tim Walz – Democratic Party

Harris serves as Vice President under President Joe Biden. Before that, she served as California’s attorney general and represented that state in the U.S. Senate.

Walz is Governor of Minnesota and prior to that represented Minnesota’s First Congressional District in the House of Representatives.

Donald Trump and JD Vance – Republican Party

Trump served as president from 2017 to 2021. Prior to that he was a real estate developer, businessman and a reality television star as host of The Apprentice.

Vance currently represents Ohio in the U.S. Senate, elected in 2022. Previously he was a venture capitalist and the author of the best-selling memoir Hillbilly Elegy.

Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. and Nicole Shanahan – Independent

Kennedy and Shanahan are on the Maryland ballot but they have put their campaign on hold. Kennedy is now working with the Trump campaign.

Jill Stein and Butch Ware – Green Party

Stein, a physician and activist, was on the Green Party ballot for President in 2012 and 2016 and ran for Governor of Massachusetts in 2002 and 2010.

Ware is an educator specializing in the history of empire, colonialism, genocide and revolution. He has been a full faculty member at Northwestern University, University of Michigan, and now University of California Santa Barbara, teaching in History, Black Studies and Islamic Studies.

Chase Oliver and Mike Ter Maat – Libertarian Party

Oliver first ran for office as a Libertarian in the 2020 special election for Georgia’s 5th Congressional District. In 2022, he ran in the U.S. Senate election in Georgia and received 2.1 percent of the vote. Oliver told Ballotpedia earlier this year that the areas of public policy he is most passionate about are “Foreign policy (I’m antiwar), criminal justice reform and immigration reform.”

Ter Maat’s career experience includes working as a police officer in Broward County, Fla., an economist, an economics professor and a substitute teacher.



Poetry, Spoken Word
Saturdays at The SPACE

A Poetry and Spoken Word Workshop, Coffee with Whiskey, will be offered for people age 13 and older on Saturdays, October 19 and 26, from 2 to 4 p.m. with @WhiskeyGirlDC.



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FIRE DEPT. continued from page 1

meeting in June, Thomas Ray, chief of the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, had warned, “Once [firefighters] get pulled, they don’t come back” (see the June 12 issue of the News Review).

Additional Surge Unit

Beginning Sunday, October 13, a second Peak EMS unit was positioned in Greenbelt so that there are now two in Greenbelt and one in Bunker Hill. These units are staffed using overtime, but according to PGFD since July 1, the two units in place required only five mandatory holdovers/callbacks, for a total of 40 hours, said Tiffany Green, Prince George’s County fire chief, in her memo.

Salmerón and city councilmembers described the addition of a second Peak EMS unit in Greenbelt as the positive news in the otherwise disappointing announcement. “The one bright spot is that we did receive an extra EMS unit that will be stationed at the Greenbelt Fire Station during peak hours, giving us two EMS units there and one at Bunker Hill. It doesn’t make up for the continued absence of the career firefighters, but hopefully will help us to avoid the repetition of the long response times noted in specific medical incidents recently,” said Councilmember Kristen Weaver, who along with Salmerón, Mayor Emmett Jordan and Councilmember Jenni Pompei were informed of the decision during a call with Green on Friday. Pompei also believed the activism of Greenbelt’s leaders and residents has been impactful. “Chief Green said multiple times on the call that she is aware of the concern among Greenbelt residents, which is why she is giving our community a second unit during peak hours, so I do think the continued activism from residents and actions of council have made a difference and are helping keep a spotlight on this situation,” said Pompei.

Ongoing Litigation

Meanwhile, the city waits for news in its legal case against the county – specifically, they await a hearing date. Greenbelt, along with Berwyn Heights and College Park, filed for a temporary restraining order on June 28, which was denied. One part of their legal case was stopping the reassignment and the second component is gaining access to data that’s been withheld from the city, explained Salmerón. Though PGFD has pointed to HIPAA laws as prohibiting them from sharing some documents, Salmerón argues it’s possible to share information without revealing individual identities and personal information. The city has requested information from Chief Green and Deputy Chief James McClelland Sr., and been told to file Public Information Act (PIA) requests.

Lack of Transparency

“The county does not see us as a partner in this,” Salmerón told the News Review. He’s never worked anywhere where partner government agencies have operated in such a way or shown such a lack of commitment to the other as a partner, he said. “We are being given the runaround,” said Salmerón. “We’re going to get the information we’re asking for – they’re just stalling.”

The News Review filed a PIA request in July for the analy-

sis PGFD used to come to the decision to remove career staff from the four stations. In August, PGFD responded with Power-Point charts missing key information or comparative data. They have not responded to requests to clarify the charts or provided any narrative analysis (see September 18 issue). Director of Public Information Alan Doubleday told the News Review that the Maryland Public Information Act (MPIA) office had to respond to questions about what the charts represent, while the MPIA office told the News Review it was no longer within their purview and should be addressed by the spokespersons. Despite being sent MPIA’s statement, Doubleday has not responded to these multiple questions and requests to enable understanding of the public information documents. The News Review filed two further PIA requests with PGFD this month.

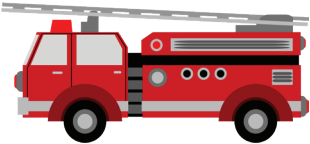
Reducing Mandatory Overtime

Green’s memo stated that the redeployment of career staff from the four stations was successful in reducing mandatory holdover/callback hours by 78.88 percent compared to the same June to October 5 period the year before. However, “our department still faces a critical staff shortage,” she wrote.

Recruitment, Retention

PGFD has managed a net gain of its sworn employees of just one since May 31. While the department is authorized to have 1,224 sworn employees, they have only 1,013 (including recruits). The department backfills an average of 45 positions per shift; 180 positions across all shifts and considerably more during peak leave season, stated Green’s memo. Backfilling positions refers to using staff who were not scheduled to work. Despite gaining 29 new recruits in July, PGFD has lost 28 sworn employees since May 31, some of whom were recruits. Nonetheless, Green expressed optimism about those currently in the Training and Leadership Academy and about future recruits, and stated she will advocate for staffing above their current budget.

Green’s memo does not suggest this is a temporary reassignment or that there are plans to reassess it. However, Pompei told the News Review that during her call with council on Friday, Green said they would re-evaluate the staffing situation again before the end of the year.



Greenbelt Farmers Market

Sundays 10a - 2p

Southway and Centerway

GreenbeltFarmersMarket.org

City Council Executive Session Focuses on County Fire Department

by Julian Ford

The Greenbelt City Council held an executive session on the evening of Wednesday, October 9 to discuss the city’s ongoing fire department staffing crisis and challenges communicating with the Prince George’s County Fire Department (PGFD).

The meeting, which included the city’s attorneys, was held at the Municipal Building amidst the growing crisis between Greenbelt and the PGFD. June 30 saw the county’s decision to reassign 24 career firefighters from the Greenbelt Fire Department to various parts of the county, leaving only 15 volunteer firefighters to deal with emergency responses. The decision was so controversial that it led Greenbelt, Berwyn Heights and College Park to file a restraining order against the county, in the hope that the firefighters would not be pulled. Their request for a temporary restraining order was denied.

Plan Not Temporary

“We’d been told that this would be a temporary summer staffing plan,” said Mayor Emmett Jordan, “to relieve the career firefighters and reduce overtime. At this point, though, summer’s over. ... We’ve got over \$2 million worth of equipment that’s just sitting there most of the time.” Indeed, on Friday, October 11, County Fire Chief Tiffany Green announced the “temporary” staffing plan would stay in place.

Emergency Response Times

Three months have passed since the county’s temporary staffing plan was instituted, and according to council, the passage of time has seen a marked increase in emergency response times by county emergency personnel. As reported by Greenbelt residents, one man who waited eight minutes for an ambulance

on September 18 later died. Other instances included a 13-minute response time for a 3-year-old child struck by a vehicle, as well as a reported response of 23 minutes to a fire alarm from Green Ridge House, a senior housing complex.

Lack of Communication

According to City Manager Josué Salmerón, these excessive response times have gone unaddressed by the county, which has communicated little over the last three months. This runs counter to the county’s initial promise that Greenbelt would receive bi-weekly updates on the data related to the staffing plan.

“We have not received bi-weekly updates,” said Salmerón. “The chief’s letter says that they’ve had 18 communications with us. Unless they’re speaking with every councilmember, I’m not aware of 18 engagements. I don’t know how they’re coming up with those numbers. ... They’ve sent us three letters.”

Chief Green was much the focal point of the meeting. According to the city manager, the

council, who had written Green a letter addressing their concerns (see the October 10 issue), received an invitation to meet privately with the chief on Friday. Although Salmerón and Councilmember Silke Pope voiced optimism for this meeting, Councilmember Jenni Pompei was less enthused. Ultimately, the news communicated from PGFD on Friday would be that there is no return in sight for the career firefighters.

“I question whether or not we should continue to take private meetings with Chief Green,” Pompei said. “She’s made lots of promises to us that have not been delivered, and I feel that if we continue to take these private meetings, she’s going to continue ... If she were to meet publicly, our constituents would have a chance to speak with her, and any commitments she made would be in public.”

In response to this concern, Salmerón stated that Greenbelt, Beltsville and College Park had

See COUNCIL, page 9

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STORY HOUR continued from page 1

growth, according to American University’s School of Education. Robert Goldberg-Strassler of Greenbelt’s Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness (RUAK) group began the story hour in October 2022 with the city’s Recreation Department and Prince George’s County Library System. Darlene Reyes from the Beltsville library led the group through books, songs and activities. The book Adela’s Mariachi Band introduced children to Mexican music and instruments while telling how Adela finds her role in her family’s mariachi band. In The Plant Rescuer, Manny visits the library to learn how to care for his first plant.

The song De La Cabeza a Los Pies (From Head to Feet) got children and adults moving while naming body parts in Spanish. When Reyes asked the children to name shapes she displayed, they said “A triangle” and “A circle,” to which she responded “Yes, an orange triangle, un triángulo naranja” and “A purple circle, un círculo morado.” In a book about shapes, attendees looked for shapes in everyday objects: “Triangles are crunchy chips for guacamole and dip. ... How many rectangles can you find? Do you want to count the flags? Let’s do it in Spanish: Uno, dos, tres, cuatro, cinco – 5!” After helpers distributed leaf shapes, Reyes asked children to bring different color leaves to her, teaching them colors, to follow instructions and to take turns.

Netio Casasola Trujillo, 3, proudly showed the dinosaur excavation kit he chose to take home. Mother Katherine Trujillo said they have been attending story hour for about 10 months, saying Netio likes the books and learning about colors, and she appreciates listening to the reading and songs. Jessica Lopez said her 1-year-old daughter Itzel enjoys being with other children.

Gabriel, 5, told the News Review he likes singing (“Yes, I do”) and brother Jaden, 2, likes listening to stories (according to his enthusiastic “Ah, yes!”).

Afterward, Jim Thompson, with 2-year-old son Cayo, said the story hour was “Lovely. His mom is Puerto Rican so it’s nice that he can have the dual languages going on. We try to do that at home, too.”

Previous story hours highlighted the Chinese Mandarin language, Islamic culture, Patuxent Wildlife Refuge and the Laurel Dinosaur Park, with takeaways

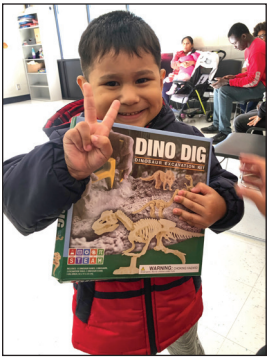


Librarian Reyes asks children to bring her different color leaves, teaching them about colors, how to follow instructions, and how to take turns.

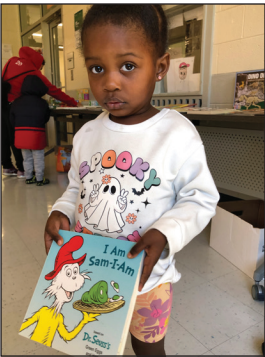
- Photos by Erica Johns



Children mime sleep during verses of the song The Lion Sleeps Tonight.



Netio Casasola Trujillo, left, and Ava, right, show the items they chose to take home from the table of books and educational toys.



including paints, sidewalk chalk and Play Doh. Every session includes healthy snacks and books and toys to take home, organized by Goldberg-Strassler, Janice Ataiyero, Jennifer Dudley, Judy Goldberg-Strassler and Mary Anne Savercool. This month children left with books, tambourines and bubbles.

“It’s so joyful! ... you can’t leave without a book,” said Savercool. Ataiyero explained,

“We started all this together. It’s so inclusive – we have children from all over, different language books, American Sign Language. I’ve been to other story times in the area, and nobody has one like this.”

The story hour occurs the second Friday of each month at Springhill Lake Recreation Center, with the next one scheduled for Friday, November 8.

WSSC Crew Repairs Leaking Water Main at 37 Ridge Road

by Erica Johns

On Wednesday, October 2, WSSC repaired a water main in 37 Court Ridge Road. The main began leaking this summer from a 37 Court yard adjoining the inner walkway between 37 Court Ridge Road and 58 Court Crescent Road, creating a wet walkway for several months.

Resident of 37 Court Sandi Heibel said WSSC personnel

were incredibly communicative all day long and finished the job by 3 p.m. She noted their flexibility in accessing the job site, bringing smaller equipment from Ridge Road and the mechanized digger from Crescent Road via the walkway between 58 and 60 Courts Crescent (and a gap they cut in the yard hedge).



PHOTOS BY ERICA JOHNS

The walkway flooded between 37 Court Ridge and 58 Court Crescent. The worker's height illustrates the depth of the water main.

COUNCIL continued from page 8

all proposed hosting community meetings on the subject over the next two weeks. Greenbelt held a town hall on September 12 (see the September 19 issue), Beltsville intended to host a meeting October 15, and College Park the

month after. Green will be invited. Whether or not she attends remains to be seen.

Julian Ford is a University of Maryland graduate student at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism writing for the News Review.

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Eleanor Roosevelt High School Band Fundraiser

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Walk to School Day

Greenbelt students and police participated in the National Walk to School Day on Wednesday, October 9. The day's purpose is to raise awareness of the impor-

tance of safe walking and biking routes for kids and all pedestrians, and the benefits for fitness and for the environment.



Students gather at Franklin Park ready to walk to Springhill Lake Elementary School.

PHOTO COURTESY GREENBELT POLICE

Teen on Scooter Struck on Crescent

An 18-year-old man riding an electric scooter was in critical condition at an area hospital Sunday night after he was struck by a car on Crescent Road. The collision occurred at approximately 7 p.m. at the intersection of Crescent and Lastner Lane. The driver of the car remained on the scene. Speaking to the News Review, Ricardo Dennis of the Greenbelt Police Department couldn't comment on what led to the collision or who was at fault but he said the driver was not impaired and as of Monday was not facing any charges. There was no update yet available on the condition of the teenager.

Crescent Road was closed between Lastner Lane and Northway for over two hours following the incident.

Repair of Concrete Outside Co-op



PHOTO BY JEFFREY ALLEN JONES

Walkway repair at Co-op

A hole and erosion in the concrete near the Roosevelt Center entrance/exit to the Co-op Grocery Store and Pharmacy were discovered recently and marked with a yellow cone for safety. In looking into the problem, the city removed a green railing that was in terrible disrepair. They are in the process of fully assessing what is causing the erosion and how far the problem extends beneath the concrete. Work on the area will begin Wednesday, October 16. During that time, the Roosevelt Center entrance/exit will be closed. The ramp entrance/exit will remain open.

Coffee with a Cop



On Wednesday, October 2, the Greenbelt Police Department held its latest Coffee with a Cop event at the coffee shop in the Beltway Plaza Target, a chance for anyone to interact and chat with the officers in a relaxed environment.



- Photos courtesy Greenbelt Police

Police officers chat with patrons at the Target coffee shop.



Empty Bowls Event Nov. 17 at St. Hugh's

The Empty Bowls event will take place on Sunday, November 17 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at St. Hugh's church. The event will benefit the St. Hugh's Food Pantry, which provides food weekly to over 60 families.

Participants can purchase a ticket for \$30 (200 tickets will be sold), select a unique hand-crafted ceramic bowl and enjoy a cup of soup, bread, drinks and dessert with others in the community. Kids 6 and under eat free. Tickets can be purchased by emailing Mary Ann Tretler at mary_tretler@yahoo.com or by calling 240-517-7559.

Music will be provided by local Greenbelt groups. At the event there will be additional pottery pieces available for purchase.



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Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred October 7 to 13, 2024. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an enquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email pd@greenbeltmd.gov. Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

Armed Carjackings

On October 7 at 5:23 p.m. near 51 Ridge Road, suspects pointed a handgun at a woman and stole her vehicle. Officers spotted the vehicle and pursued it down the Beltway south to the Central Avenue exit. Prince George's County police were notified. The stolen vehicle was located and recovered the following day.

On October 11 at 3:15 p.m. near 7510 Cherrywood Lane, two suspects with guns jumped out of a Cadillac sedan and drove away with a silver 2003 Honda Civic (Md. 9Z8646). A third suspect remained inside the Cadillac.

Assault

On October 12 at 3:49 a.m. near 6000 Springhill Drive, two females were engaged in a physical altercation. One was taken to the hospital as a precaution due to an injury. Both parties were advised on how to file charges.

On October 10 at 5:09 p.m. near 7607 Greenbelt Road, a man assaulted someone inside the store, then fled.

DUI Arrest

On October 11 at 12:54 a.m. near Crescent Road and Southway, a driver was found slumped over the wheel on the wrong side of the road toward oncoming traffic and was arrested for DUI.

Fraud

On October 8 near 7595 Greenbelt Road, unauthorized transactions took place on an account.

Credit cards were stolen and used for unauthorized purchases, on October 9 near 230 Lastner Lane, and on October 10 near 6440 Cherrywood Lane.

Theft and Shoplifting

Two repeat offenders were arrested near 6100 Greenbelt Road and taken to the Department of Corrections on October 7; at 11:06 a.m., a repeat shoplifter with several other pending cases with the store was captured stealing items, and at 12:42 p.m. a previously banned man who was trespassing in the store tried to shoplift clothing items by pulling the tags off and wearing them out of the store.

On October 8 at 7:28 p.m.

near Greenbelt Station Parkway and Greenbelt Road, a man stole a woman's groceries and wallet; officers arrested him and all items were returned.

On October 9 at 2:42 p.m. near 5910 Greenbelt Road, a man stole several items.

On October 10 at 5:02 p.m. near 7583 Greenbelt Road, three men entered the store with large bags and stole merchandise.

On October 12 at 3:45 p.m. near 5910 Greenbelt Road, three teens (two boys and a girl) were stealing items from the store; they fled upon the arrival of police.

Trespassing

On October 9 at 1:56 p.m. near 6025 Springhill Drive someone used a vacant apartment to house a dog.

Vandalism

On October 7 near 5915 Cherrywood Lane, a laundry room door was damaged by someone trying to force it open.

Vehicle Crimes Stolen Vehicles

Five vehicles were stolen: on October 7 near 7509 Mandan Road, a white 2018 Hyundai Elantra (Md. 11054CL); on October 11 near 9011 Edmonston Road, a 2011 BMW (Md. 3FM3252), and near 9148 Edmonston Road, a black 2021 Toyota Camry (D.C. GM3942); and on October 13 near 9102 Springhill Lane, a 2015 black Chevrolet Suburban (Va. CJX4290), and near 9324 Edmonston Road, a 2020 Kia Optima (Md. 4FB2586).

Stolen Vehicles Located

On October 8 near 6105 Breezewood Court, a man reported his vehicle as stolen. Metro Transit Police advised him that it was in Washington, D.C.

On October 8 near 9164 Edmonston Road, an unoccupied blue Hyundai was parked lopsided with a missing door handle and damaged ignition; it was confirmed stolen.

On October 13 near 9294 Edmonston Road, a Hyundai Sonata stolen from Montgomery County was impounded for safekeeping; near 6225 Springhill Court, a Hyundai Sonata was found after being stolen earlier in the morn-

ing, and the owner took possession.

Theft from Auto

On October 7 near 6160 Springhill Terrace, the wheels were stolen from a vehicle.

Vandalism to Auto

On October 11 near 7714 Hanover Parkway, a vehicle door lock was tampered with.

Incident Summary

Greenbelt Police Department reported one death, six domestic incidents, three with arrests and one involving Child Protective Services, another incident involving Child Protective Services, and one mental health diversion.

On October 8 near 23 Parkway, two neighbors were involved in an argument; one had an open warrant and was arrested and transported to the Department of Corrections.

On October 13 at 7:06 p.m. near Crescent Road and Greenhill Road, an 18-year-old man riding a scooter was struck by a van; the van driver remained on scene and the young man was taken to the hospital.

On October 12 at 10:43 a.m. near 7817 Mandan Road, three men got out of a red truck and started arguing with and intimidating a woman over a parking spot. They fled without causing any injuries when officers arrived.

Traffic Advisory

On Wednesday and Thursday night, October 23 and 24, the northbound lanes of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway will be closed at Route 193. The closure will occur from 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. and is part of the ongoing NASA Bridge repair.

For more see the article in the October 10 issue.

Deceased Person Found In North Woods Tuesday

On the afternoon of Tuesday, October 15, the body of a deceased individual was found in a wooded area behind 62 Ridge Road, not far from a hiking trail, according to information released by the Greenbelt Police Department.

Police are investigating and report that there are no indications of foul play at this time.

The name of the deceased person will be released pending notification of their family. Officers remained in that area for some hours as they continued their investigation Tuesday.

Armed Carjacking

Just before 9 p.m. on Tuesday, October 15, an armed carjacking took place near the 100 block of Centerway. Two armed young males took a 2024 white Volkswagen Jetta at gunpoint and fled the area. The incident is still under investigation and police ask anyone with information to please call 301-474-7200.

The stolen Volkswagen was located late in the evening in the 7600 block of Mandan Road. No suspects were in custody at the time of press.

An armed carjacking was also reported last week at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, October 7, on Ridge Road (see the October 10 issue).



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NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The Greenbelt Consumer Cooperative

Saturday, November 9, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.

Greenbelt Community Center Gym

15 Crescent Rd. Greenbelt, MD 20770

According to the Co-op's bylaws, 25

members constitute a quorum. In the

absence of a quorum, those present can

schedule another meeting, which can

proceed even in the absence of a quorum.

Note: Fully Vested members have \$100

or more in their member capital

account.

Greenbelt

COOP

Supermarket Pharmacy

Obituaries continued from p.4

Max Pogarsky, and her brother Alan Pogarsky moved to a chicken farm in Freehold, N.J. Shortly after, they met their neighbors, the Weidenfelds, at the chicken farm across the road. The Pogarskys and the Weidenfelds became fast friends. That was how Micki met Gil. They went to high school together and later began to date. On May 2, 1953, Gil and Micki were married.

In the years that followed, they continued to live in New Jersey while Gil began college and Micki worked at Bendix to support them. Gil graduated from college and they eventually started a family. They had two daughters, Sharon Weidenfeld Robinson and Ellen Vesey. In 1965, the family moved to Greenbelt.

Gil went to work at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and attended law school. Micki stayed home to manage the family and soon became involved in the PTA, civic associations, Democratic clubs, politics and numerous other organizations and charities. She was never one to say no when help was needed for a school spaghetti dinner, collecting money for the March of Dimes, raising an orphaned baby squirrel, organizing a neighborhood pizza party, helping with the annual Greenbelt Labor Day Festival, being on the board of the local savings and loan or being the Greenbelt chair for Steny Hoyer as he first ran for Congress in



Gil and Micki in 2024

1981. Micki also cherished the many friendships she made in Greenbelt.

As their love for Greenbelt grew, Gil decided to run for city council. Micki was his unofficial campaign manager, organizer and chief of staff throughout his 18 years as a city councilmember and mayor. Micki was appointed by the Governor to the Maryland Human Relations Commission and later to the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners where she eventually became chairperson.

Micki also enjoyed her extended family of aunts, uncles, cousins, in-laws and nieces and nephews. She attended many weddings, bar and bat mitzvahs, Thanksgiving and Passover dinners and other events over the years. She was always excited to see everyone and catch up with what they were doing in life.

No matter how busy she was, Micki always had time for her daughters. As Sharon began a

career as a private investigator Micki loved to hear about all of her cases and adventures. Ellen moved to Pennsylvania, got married and had children, and Micki was there to help with her three grandchildren, Justin, Jordan and Jillian. She and Gil would travel to Pennsylvania often so they could visit, watch soccer games, take the kids on outings, celebrate birthdays and holidays and attend graduations. She also loved nothing better than to have her whole family at her home as she hosted delicious Thanksgiving dinners and other family gatherings.

Gil and Micki loved to travel and as their family was growing up, they always made sure to take trips to New Jersey, Ocean City, Md., Jekyll Island, Ga., Disney World and Jamaica. Later in life, one of their favorite places to relax was the beach in Mexico. And then they discovered cruises and there was no stopping them as they cruised as often as possible for as long as possible.

In 2005, they began a new chapter as they left Greenbelt and moved to Heritage Harbour in Annapolis. They continued their hobby of cruising. And in between cruises, Micki continued being active in Heritage Harbour. She was an integral part of the Jewish Community, the Democratic Club, the hospital-ity committee for their condo building and wherever else she could help out. She made some wonderful new friends in her new community. And her love for her family continued as she was

always interested and involved in the lives of her daughters and grandchildren.

In 2021, Gil and Micki moved to Bay Village Assisted Living in Annapolis. Though she was in her late 80s, that didn't stop Micki. She immediately made new friends and became involved with the Jewish Club, the Resident Council and other groups. It was almost impossible to reach Micki by phone because she was always off doing something, visiting with someone or sitting outside enjoying the sunshine with Gil and her friends. During this time, Micki and Gil got to meet their grandson's girlfriend, Yeimi. Micki quickly welcomed her as their fourth grandchild. At the end of 2023, Gil and Micki got to meet Sharon's fiancé, Garnett (Sean) Robinson, who immigrated from Jamaica. Micki always looked forward to Sean's frequent visits with Sharon to spend time with her and Gil.

In March, 2024, Micki and Gil were overjoyed as they attended the wedding of Sharon and Sean. After that, Micki made sure to let everyone at Bay Village know Sean was her son-in-law. In June, Justin and Yeimi got married and Micki couldn't have been happier that they would spend their lives together.

With all that Micki did for everyone else, she never stopped being totally devoted to her beloved husband, Gil. From their early years when she worked to put him through college to their last days when she didn't want to go to sleep until she knew he was back from dinner and safely

in their apartment, she loved him beyond measure. And Gil loved Micki in the same way and did everything he could to show that love. One of the last things he said to her was, "I couldn't have found a better person." That sums it up for all who knew Micki.

Elaine Weisel Eubanks



Elaine Eubanks

Elaine Weisel Eubanks was born in Altoona, Pa., on October 27, 1942, and died peacefully, surrounded by family on October 3, 2024. Her family moved to Greenbelt in January 1955. She graduated from High Point High School in June 1960 and Sibley School of Nursing in May 1963. She married Robert S. Eubanks on June 22, 1963, then moved to Bowie, where she raised their three children.

Besides being a busy mother of three, she was actively involved with the Camp Fire Girls in Bowie and taught ceramics out of her garage. She also worked as a nurse contractor

See OBITS, page 13



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ARPA continued from page 1

funds is greater than the remaining funds, which requires council to be selective. City staff prepared a list of potential projects for council to discuss, and the list will grow as more potential projects are found. For example, just two hours prior to the start of the worksession, the Municipal Building's elevator broke down; repairing that elevator could be done through ARPA funding under the Infrastructure category.

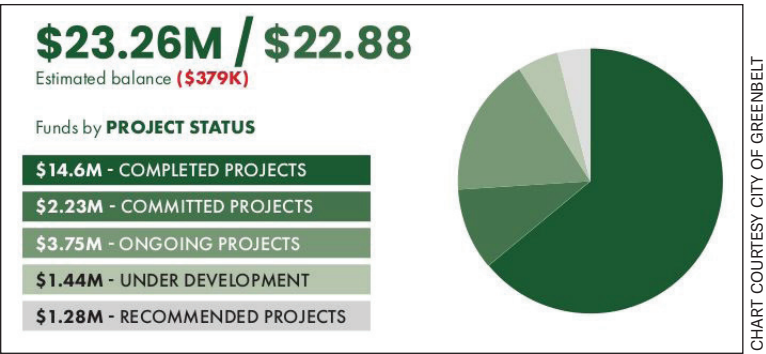
Priorities, Considerations

Council discussed priorities that they had for obligating the remaining ARPA funds. Mayor Emmett Jordan recalled how in the early years of the Covid-19 pandemic, many capital expenditures were paused, and how using ARPA funds has allowed the city to make up for lost time due to those delays in repairs and replacements. Councilmember Silke Pope was clear that the programs which promoted safety were her priority, though Salmerón clarified that while only a handful of the listed potential projects were categorized Public Safety, most of the listed programs would benefit safety. For example, although a new animal control facility is an Infrastructure project, its construction would make the working environment safer for the staff, and animal control relates directly to public safety.

There were only a few projects on the table that council didn't want to move forward. One was the creation of a dog park water station, which is projected to cost \$120K; the hefty price caused sticker shock among councilmembers, who were confident that a cheaper alternative to laying down new pipes could be found. Councilmember Amy Knesel also believed that using ARPA funds to cover the salary of the city staff who administered the funds is a low priority, arguing for the use of city funds for the water station.

Even without those two line items, the total cost of the other potential projects was still in excess of the remaining ARPA funds, so council then discussed frameworks for evaluating the projects.

Though every listed project could use ARPA funds, many could also be funded through alternative means. The city could use tax revenue, apply for grants or use bonds to cover projects. Though it requires a bit of coordination, it's also possible for the city to share costs with other



The status of ARPA-funded projects

municipalities for projects that would benefit multiple jurisdictions. Factoring in which projects will have difficulty getting funding through other means may help determine which ones will use the ARPA funds.

The timeliness of projects was also considered. Funding some projects may have an immediate effect, such as purchasing a new Community Emergency Response Team trailer to replace the broken one. Other projects could have their funding broken out into phases, with early phases covered by ARPA funds and later phases covered by an alternative funding source. As the deadline to spend ARPA funds is June 2026, some projects would already need to be phased this way if they were continued past that deadline, such as the city's food pantry donations.

Because the number of potential projects and their costs is in flux, Councilmember Kristen Weaver suggested that councilmembers order the projects through a ranked choice listing so that they could adapt their decision making as the details continue to develop.

Reparations Commission

The line item that garnered the lengthiest discussion among council and residents was the funding request from the Reparations Commission. Lois Rosado,

Commission chair, along with members Bob Rand and Tom Adams, addressed how the cost for the Commission's Phase II was calculated and how important that funding is.

Of the \$165,000 requested, \$120,000 would go to paying for expert support, \$30,000 for administrative work and \$15,000 for outreach. Rosado used the Reparations Commission of Providence, R.I., as a reference point as their work is similarly bifurcated – considering reparations through the lens of the impact on local First Nations as well as the Black community. Providence was also a helpful reference point as it has used ARPA funds to support its commission.

Though the Reparations Commission will provide its full recommendations to council after Phase II, an early takeaway that commission members shared is the realization that there is potential for harm if commission recommendations are inadequately implemented. Rosado hopes that sufficient funding will allow the commission to adequately meet its mandate. This sentiment was echoed by Councilmember Danielle McKinney, who said that because the commission was created by the city council, council had a duty to make sure it is set up to succeed.



A fawn spotted in Greenbelt East in August

Obits cont'd from p.12

during the 1980s and 1990s in various health units for the federal government. She trained Border Patrol and Secret Service agents in blood-borne pathogen safety. She was a great mother and nurse.

Elaine was preceded in death by her husband Bob and her parents Lawrence and Belva Weisel. She is survived by her three children Bill (Beth) Eubanks of Washington, D.C., Kim Eubanks of Columbia, and Barbara (Jessie) Cummings and granddaughter Alexandra (Alex) Cummings of Crownsville; and by sister Barbara (Jimmy) Hetzler of Ow-

ings; brother Larry (Bernadeanne) Weisel and sister Susan (Bob) Ollinger, both of Greenbelt; and niece Sarah (Pete) Norum of Glen Burnie.

A memorial service will be held at the Greenbelt Community Church on Monday, November 4. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Alzheimer's Association at alz.org or The Global Uplift at tgup.org. To find out more information or to share stories, pictures or comments with the family, go to simplicitycfs.com/obituaries/Elaine-Weisel-Eubanks?obId=33368890#/obituaryInfo.

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B.C.C. YARD SALE & Kitten-Palooza – Sat. 10/19, 10 - 2, Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville, MD 20705. The United Women of Faith invite you to come out and find some treasures for a bargain! Also meet some of the adorable cats and kittens available for adoption (\$). And you don't want to miss the mouthwatering lunch offerings from the Emmanuel United Women in Faith! This is a great event and the proceeds go to two wonderful charitable organizations!

LAKEWOOD COMMUNITY Yard Sale – Saturday, October 19, 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m., 104 Greenhill Road, 120 Greenhill Road, 8 Orange Court, 10 Greenknolls Place, 11 Empire Place, 18 Empire Place, 14 Fayette Place.



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#1 in Sales for Greenbelt from 2017-2023



Sports

ERHS Raiders Vie for Spot in County Soccer Championship Competition

by Patrick Gleason

On a sunny Thursday, less than two minutes had elapsed in the contest between the Eleanor Roosevelt High School Raiders and the School Without Walls Penguins when senior winger Jada Savage shattered the silence on the warm fall afternoon. After the Raiders earned a quick corner kick, Savage controlled a pass from classmate Alena Beckmann before unleashing a rocket of a shot that appeared pulled by a magnetic force to the upper right corner of the goal. The Penguin keeper was still processing the ruthless series of events as the Raider crowd erupted on October 10 at Spingarn Field. Savage didn't procrastinate in prolonging the Raider attack, tallying another goal from the left wing where she and Beckmann terrorized the Penguins throughout the afternoon. Savage completed a first-half hat trick before senior midfielder Hariette Ngwatung added an insurance goal prior to halftime.

The Raiders maintained control throughout a quiet second half en route to senior keeper Nikki Lilja's ninth shutout in 11 games for the undefeated Roosevelt squad. A victory against Northwestern on Thursday, October 17 – Roosevelt's Senior Night – will secure the Raiders a spot in the county championship game on Tuesday, October 22 at Potomac High School. The county championship pits the first-place team from Prince George's County's 4A division against the winner of the 3A/2A/1A division; the divisions are based on school enrollment size. The Raiders last won the county championship in 2022 when they defeated the Oxon Hill Clippers; a rematch this season is likely.

Junior Varsity

The junior varsity completed a quiet week in a busy season with a 4-0 triumph over the C.H. Flowers Jaguars; sophomore Treasure Wogu catalyzed the Raider offense in a game where goalkeeper Zeala Tantoh never saw danger. The junior varsity finishes its season with back-to-back games on October 17 and October 18; they host Oxon Hill before traveling to Episcopal for the season finale where they hope to make their own noise like Savage, the Raiders' leading goal scorer of the season.



Senior Jada Savage is the Raiders' leading goal scorer and one of the top threats in the championship game.



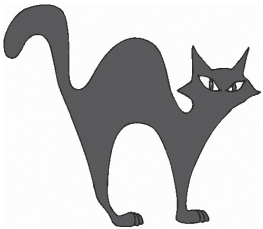
Senior Alyssa Casey is part of a strong Roosevelt senior class that has only conceded three goals all season.

- Photos by William Swart



Pumpkins sit on a bench in the middle of the bustling Fall Fest activities at Schrom Hills Park. See more photos on page 16.

PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW



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Greenbelt Rallies to Improve Morale for Deployed Soldiers

by Butch Hicks

A touching local initiative is underway, spurred by a heartfelt request from a soldier seeking to lift the spirits of his fellow troops. Platoon leader Second Lieutenant (2LT) Tyler White, in the Army's First Cavalry Division deployed to Lithuania, reached out to his father, Greenbelt Police Deputy Chief Tim White and asked if his father knew of organizations that send military care packages to soldiers. 2LT White's platoon of about 20 soldiers received infrequent morale booster mail with cakes, cookies and personal care items.

Deputy Chief White was familiar with folk at Greenbelt's American Legion Post 136. He shared his son's request with Post 136 Commander Greg Gigliotti and Post 136 Adjutant Mike Moore, who introduced White to Auxiliary Unit 136 staff who knew how to complete the deputy chief's request.

White met with Auxiliary Unit 136 Treasurer Sandi Dutton. As the deputy chief related his request, Dutton not only responded positively – she was beyond excited. "Our Auxiliary Unit had been seeking connection with deployed units that we could provide with grateful packages. Deputy Chief White's request was timely supporting his son and helping solve our military contact dilemma. This is phenomenal," she said.

During his meeting with Post 136 reps, White's expectations were for something small such as packages for the 20 people in his son's platoon. But after Dutton and Unit 136 President Kathy Gigliotti completed their response plan for what became project "Gifts of Gratitude for the Troops," it was decided to send enough packages not only for 2LT White's platoon, but also for the entire company comprising about 400 soldiers.

A shipping assessment showed the care packages would be periodically dispatched in waves of 100. On Thursday evening, September 26, more than 60 representatives from Post 136's family and the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department assembled at the Post's Hofberg Hall for a sack-stuffing party. The volunteers moved along tables arrayed with hundreds of bags and boxes with contents ranging from sunflower seeds, cookies, gum, Starburst and Skittles to varieties of nuts, dental care items, and comfort items such as socks and bandanas.

Also included in each package was a one-page appreciation from the Greenbelt American Legion Family and the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department. It reads in part: "As you serve far from home, please know that you are being lifted up on prayer and thought by so many ... Stay strong and remember that you are making a difference."

Local elementary school students from Springhill Lake Elementary, St. Jerome's Academy in Hyattsville, Cherokee Lane Elementary in Adelphi and Indian Queen Recreation Center in Fort Washington also contributed by creating thank-you cards. They all had appreciation comments for 2LT White and his troops, but



PHOTO BY BUTCH HICKS

More than 60 volunteers from the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department, American Legion Post 136 Legionnaires, Sons of the American Legion, Auxiliary Unit 136 and the community stuffed more than 150 Gratitude Bags in response to Greenbelt Police Deputy Chief Tim White's request to assist his son, Army 2LT Tyler White, in improving his platoon's morale.



PHOTO COURTESY TIM WHITE

Army 2LT Tyler White, left, and his father, Greenbelt Police Deputy Chief Tim White

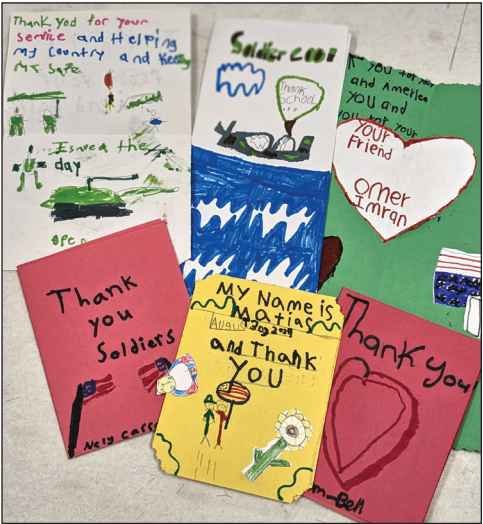


PHOTO BY BUTCH HICKS

Children from Springhill Lake Elementary, St. Jerome's Academy, Cherokee Lane Elementary and Indian Queen Recreation Center made Thank You cards to be included in the gratitude bags.



one student's sentiment solidified their messages. It read "Thank you for your service, helping my country and keeping me safe."

After a few hours, when the rows of tables were cleared, more than 140 bags were filled and loaded into shipping boxes. Next stop – 2LT White's Army unit in Lithuania.

"It was an outstanding Greenbelt community volunteer effort responding to Deputy Chief White's request for assistance," said Unit 136 President Kathy Gigliotti. "American Legion Post 136 Legionnaires, Sons of the American Legion Squadron 136 and Auxiliary Unit 136 and the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Depart-

ment planned and collaborated in response to a father's request to assist his Army officer son deployed overseas. Deputy Chief White helps protect our city; his son helps protect our country."

Deputy Chief White said he appreciated the community's effort supporting his son's request. "I was overwhelmed at the thoroughness of the response," he said. "I can't thank them enough for what they're doing. As a parent, we worry about our kids' welfare and wellbeing. So, to see the organizations like the American Legion and the fire department come together to support my son, it just brings a time of tears in my heart."

Schrom Hills Fall Fest Draws Crowd; Offers Pumpkins, Kites

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

On Saturday, October 12 there was beautiful sunshine and 70 degree weather for the Schrom Hills Fall Festival. Within an hour the parking lot at the park was full and festivalgoers were parking along Hanover Parkway and nearby streets to make their way there.

A tractor pulled small groups on hayrides around the perimeter of the park, stations offered games like "Guess the weight of the pumpkin" and "Guess how many pieces of candy corn," a popular facepainting station delighted children and adults, corn sensory bins entertained the youngest and, of course, there were plenty of pumpkins. Participants could carve pumpkins for the Pumpkin Walk that eve-

ning and those who didn't want to carve could pick one from a patch to decorate with funny foam faces. One of the most exciting offerings at the festival was the pair of inflatable balls that ran along parallel tracks powered by those brave enough to climb inside. On a hill, The SPACE hosted a kite making station and, though there wasn't much wind, children ran enthusiastically enough to launch their creations behind them. Public Works offered rides on their cherry picker.

Greenbelters have more fall festivities and pumpkins to look forward to, including a carving in Roosevelt Center this Friday and a Pumpkin Walk in the North Woods on Saturday. See Community Events on page 3 for more.



The youngest visitors enjoy sensory bins of corn.



Grace and D'Aubree, both age 6, run with their kites.



Visitors play inside giant inflatable balls.

- Photos by Anna Bedford-Dillow